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on May 1, 2009

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Roger Hylton

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 16869Y-146900US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Mika Mizutani et al.

Application No.: 10/540,768

Filed: December 16, 2005

For: NETWORK DEVICE, NETWORK  
SYSTEM, AND GROUP  
MANAGEMENT METHOD

Group Director: 2431

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No.: 1722

Examiner: Vaughan, Michael R.

Art Unit: 2431

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER  
37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being  
called to the attention of the Examiner.

Also enclosed is a copy of a Japan Patent Office (JPO) office action dated  
February 10, 2009 for the corresponding JPO patent application JP2003-141286 which cites four  
foreign patent references already of record in the present application. Please note that the JPO  
examiner cites JPO laid-open publication JP10-041940 which corresponds to US Pat. No.  
6,118,771 cited herein. Also note that the JPO examiner cites JPO laid-open publication JP2002-

111679 which corresponds to US patent application publication 2002/0037736 already of record in the present application.

It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR §1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

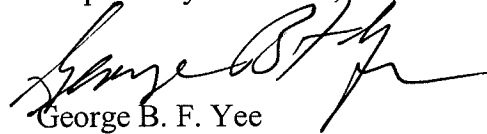
This IDS is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Please charge the IDS fee of \$180 to Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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